was increased from 18 to 26 to clear the arrears of pending cases speedily;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there are still ten vacancies of the Judges in Supreme Court; and

(c) if so, what are the hurdles in filling these vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c) The sanctioned strength of the Supreme Court was increased from 18 Judges to 26 Judges having regard to the institution and pendency of cases.

As on 9.11.87, there were 10 vacancies in the Supreme Court.

Selection of Judges involves deliberation in consultation with the Chief Justice of India; this does take time as the effort is to appoint the most suitable persons as Judges.

Resource mobilisation

682. DR. H. P. SHARMA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the severe drought situation and the resultant fall in resource mobilisation, Government propose to prune the annual target; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if not, the strategy proposed to be employed in covering the resources gap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) A study on the impact of drought on the economy of the country is being undertaken in the Planning Commission. A view on resources gap and Plan targets for the Annual Plan 1987-88 and Seventh Five Year Plan will be taken after results of the study are available.

12.00 NOON

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Indira Vikas Patra (Third Amendment) Rules, 1987

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of section 12 of the Government Savings Certificates Act, 1959, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) Notification GSR No. 739(E), dated the 31st August, 1987, publishing the Indira Vikas Patra (Third Amendment) Rules, 1987. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4969/87].

Notifiration of the Ministry of External Affairs

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy (in English and Hindi of the Ministry of External Affairs Notification S.O. No. 768(E), dated the 12th August, 1987, publishing Corrigendum to Government Notification S.O. No. 429(E), dated the 18th July, 1986. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4948/87]

Notifications of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions - Department of Personnel and Training

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES, AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of section 3 of All India Services Act, 1951, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (Department of Personnel and Training):—

(i) GSR No. 795(E), dated the 18th September, 1987, publishing the Indian Administrative Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Fifth Amendment Regulations, 1987.

(ii) GSR No. 796(E), dated the 18th September, 1987 publishing the Indian Administrative Service (Pay) Fifth Amendment Rules, 1987.

(iii) GSR No. 805(E), dated the 18th September, 1987 publishing the Indian Administrative Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Fourth Amendment Regulations, 1987.

(iv) GSR No. 699 dated the 19th September, 1987, publishing the Indian Police Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Fourth Amendment Regulations, 1987.

(v) GSR No. 700, dated the 19th September, 1987, publishing the Indian Police Service (Pay) Sixth Amendment Rules, 1987.

(vi) GSR No. 767, dated the 17th October, 1987 publishing the Indian Administrative Service (Pay) Sixth Amendment Rules, 1987.

(vii) GSR No. 768, dated the 17th October, 1987, publishing the Indian Administrative Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Sixth Amendment Regulations, 1987.

(viii) GSR No. 801, dated the 31st October, 1987, publishing the Indian Forest Service (Pay) Fifth Amendment Rules, 1987.

(ix) GSR No. 802, dated the 31st October, 1987, publishing the Indian Forest Service (Fixaiton of Cadre Strength) Fourth Amendment Regulations, 1987.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4956/87 for (i) to (ix)]

Navy Leave (Amendment) Regulations, 1987

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under section 185 of the Navy Act, 1957, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Defence, Notification SRO No. 290, dated the 26th September, 1987, publishing the Navy Leave (Amendment) Regulations, 1987. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4977/87]

MESSAGE FROM THE LOK SABHA

The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Amendment Bill, 1987.

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report to the House the following message received from the Lok Sabha signed by the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha:

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Amendment Bill, 1987, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 11th November, 1987."

Sir, I lay the Bill on the Table.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Report of the Committee.

DR. FAGUNI RAM (Bihar): Sir, I lay on the Table a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Twenty-Ninth Report of the Committee on the Committee on the Welfare of the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the Ministry of Civil Aviation—Reservations for, and employment of, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Air India.